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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(s):

Hersberger et al.

SERIAL NO.:

10/081,831

ART UNIT:

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FILING DATE:

2/21/02

EXAMINER:

TITLE:

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Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pure to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from the foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The above-identified patent application has a counter part foreign patent application International patent application No. PCT/US02/06126. Applicant's attorney encloses a copy of the Search Report issued for the counter part foreign application.



SEP 2 0 2002 GROUP 3600



The Search Report cites several references, listed below, which were provided with the Search Report, and are being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

> US 5,490,077 US 5,535,279 US 5,602,743

US 5,682,427

US 5,764,380

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Copies of these references are enclosed together with a Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's use.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

Req. No. 44,004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope address to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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Page No.: 1 of: 1

Serial No.: 10/081 831 **EQRMATION DISCLOSURE** Docket No.: 770P010695-US (PAR) CITATION FORM FOR PATENT APPLICATION Applicant(s): Hersberger et al. SEP 2 0 2002 SEP 0 9 2002(F) RM PTO-1449) Group: 26 POUP 3600 (Substitute) Filing Date: 2/21/02 **U.S. PATENTS** Patent Number Issue Date Name Class Sub-Filing date class 5,490,077 2/6/96 Freytag 364 464.02 1/13/94 5,535,279 7/9/96 Seestrom 380 55 12/15/94 5,602,743 2/11/97 Frevtag 364 416.18 5/18/95 5,682,427 10/28/97 Seestrom 380 51 12/15/94 5,764,380 6/9/98 Noguchi 488 10/19/95 358 U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS Sub-Initials Publication No. Pub. Date Name Class Filing Date class FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **Initials Document Number** Date Country Translation? Name Yes/No/n/a SEP 11 2002 Technology Center 2600 OTHER DOCUMENTS (Title, Author, Date, Pages, Etc., if known) Examiner's Signature: Date Considered: Initial if reference was considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP. Mark through citation if not considered. Include a copy of this citation form with your next correspondence to the Applicant(s).

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